



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

July 1, 2005
FDK #01-06

MEMORANDUM

To: School District Superintendents
County School Superintendents
Charter School Holders
School Principals

From: Karen Woodhouse
Deputy Associate Superintendent
Early Childhood Education

Subject: Funding and Requirements for Full-Day Kindergarten Program
2005 – 2006

Thanks to all of you and your staff for your timely return of applications and clarifying information.

The final Eligible Schools and Funding List for the Full-Day Kindergarten Program is now posted on the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Full-Day Kindergarten web page at: <http://www.ade.az.gov/earlychildhood/fulldaykinder/>. ADE anticipates first and second month's payments will be released on or about the first week in August 2005.

There are 282 schools eligible for Full-Day Kindergarten Funding this year. The appropriation for 2005-06, when added to the remaining balance from the 2004-05 appropriation, is insufficient to fully fund the state wide total calculated for all eligible schools (about \$991,000 short). Pursuant to A.R.S. §15-901.02, as amended by Laws 2005, Chapter 329, the total available monies for 2005-06 have been allocated to each eligible school based on their calculated 2005-06 amount in comparison to the state total. A revised Funding Calculations spreadsheet is also posted on the web site for your reference.

As you prepare for the 2005 – 2006 school year, two very important requirements of the Full-Day Kindergarten Program must be considered:

1. Schools receiving Full-Day Kindergarten Program funding must allow parents to choose between a half-day or full-day kindergarten program [ARS §15.901.02(A)].

This requirement also affects any school district offering a full-day kindergarten program, regardless of the funding source. ARS §15.703(B) as amended by Laws 2005, 1st Regular Session, Chapter 77, (HB 2435) now states:

“ . . . Each school district that establishes a kindergarten program shall offer half-day kindergarten programs that provide instruction that is aligned with the academic standards adopted by the State Board of Education. A school district that establishes a full-day kindergarten program shall allow each parent of a kindergarten pupil to choose either half-day kindergarten instruction or full-day kindergarten instruction.”

2. Students funded with Full-Day Kindergarten Program funds must be five years of age prior to September 1 of the school year in which the student is enrolled. This new requirement is found in ARS §15.901.02(R) (Laws 2005, 1st Regular Session, Chapter 329) as a result of HB 1516.

Information on the Full-Day Kindergarten Program will continue to be provided on the ADE Full-Day Kindergarten web site, as well as through email messages.

Please contact the Early Childhood Education Office at 602.364.1530 or fulldaykinder@ade.az.gov if you have any program questions. Financial questions may be directed to the School Finance Office at 602.542.5695. Questions on capital grants may be directed to the School Facilities Board at 602.542.6501.